

University of New Hampshire Graduate Student Senate
Resolution AY2015-2016:
March 8, 2016

A Resolution Encouraging the Update and Enforcement of Smoking & Tobacco Policies

WHEREAS, the University of New Hampshire has smoking and tobacco policies in place to “protect the health, safety, and comfort of University faculty, staff, and visitors” (RSA 155: 64-77); and

WHEREAS, the existing policy establishes non-smoking areas, such as within 20-feet of a building or in service lines, such as for bus stops; and

WHEREAS, the existing policy does not specify a mode of enforcement, but rather relies on the “consideration and cooperation of smokers and nonsmokers”; and

WHEREAS, the existing policy does not specify any standards regarding the disposal of cigarette waste that, if not handled properly, can cause substantial environmental pollution; and

WHEREAS, the accumulation of cigarette waste on the grounds surrounding academic buildings presents aesthetic challenges along with the aforementioned environmental risks; and

WHEREAS, within the UNH Strategic Plan, sustainability is defined as “what sustains us as diverse people and communities, from clean air and water to healthcare, education and art;”

Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED that the University of New Hampshire Graduate Student Senate strongly encourages the following changes:

- 1) The reasonable enforcement of existing smoking and tobacco policies – specifically, maintaining nonsmoking areas
- 2) Enhancing educational efforts to inform faculty, staff and students about existing policies
- 3) Employing personnel on campus who are equipped with the necessary tools and authority to enforce policies beyond residential halls and to ticket those who violate policies
- 4) Conducting an assessment of the quality, quantity, and location of cigarette waste containers on campus
- 5) Developing a revised smoking and tobacco policy about the enforcement process and resultant consequences.